

## **EWS RELEASE**

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Corps to conduct geophysical survey of Warwick subdivision at Vista Lakes

Jacksonville, Fla. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District learned today that a private contractor working for Lennar Homes discovered a munitions item within the Warwick subdivision at Vista Lakes. The item, a ANM40, 23-pound practice bomb, was rendered safe by Patrick Air Force Base earlier today. Due to this discovery, the Corps of Engineers took immediate action to extend its investigation of the Pinecastle Jeep Range to include the Warwick subdivision, which is adjacent to the boundaries of the Pinecastle Jeep Range.

"The safety and well-being of residents within the Warwick community, and those within the Pinecastle Jeep Range is the Corps' highest priority," said Wandell Carlton, program manager. "We will fully investigate the area to ensure residents they are safe."

The Corps' cleanup efforts currently under way include the Odyssey Middle School grounds, Tivoli Gardens subdivision and a portion of the Mockingbird, LLC property closest to the school. To further ensure public safety, efforts will now include the Warwick subdivision. As with previously completed work and work currently under way, a phased approach will prioritize and address the areas of immediate concern.

Safety is always the Corps' top priority. Even after 60 years, a piece of ordnance may be dangerous if disturbed, potentially causing serious injury. It is important to note that in order for ordnance to be dangerous it first must be present, be accessible, and have energy applied to it.



Therefore, it is vitally important that anyone who discovers suspected ordnance items follow the simple

"3 Rs" of safety: **Recognize** the item may be dangerous; **Retreat** and do not touch it; **Report** its location to the local Sheriff's Office immediately.

On behalf of the Department of Defense, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers cleans up sites that were formerly used by the military. In 1943, the U.S. government leased 12,483 acres of land in Orlando (Orange County) as an off-post site of the Pinecastle Army Airfield, for use as a gunnery and demonstration range. The site was declared surplus property and all leases were terminated by December 1947.

For more information about the former Pinecastle Jeep Range, please contact the Corporate Communication Office at 904-232-1576.

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